Durham Planning Academy

Planning Basics and Theory



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Course Outline

- □ Today
 - Introductions
 - Definition of Planning
 - * Two semesters of planning theory in 45 minutes



Course Outline

- May 3
 - History of Planning
 - Legal Basis of Planning
 - Comprehensive Planning
 - Zoning
- May 17
 - Planning Department Structure
 - Mock Planning Commission









Ground Rules





What is Planning?

Planner



What society thinks I do



What my friends think I do



What applicants think I do



What the APA thinks I do



What I think I do



What I really do



What is Planning (and what is it not)?

- Helps create a vision for a city or region
- Vision is generally implemented by regulation
- Planning does not, and can not, dictate market forces
 - * "What are you putting there?"
- Dichotomy between "the science of city planning and the art of city design"

Role of a Planner

- Provide technical knowledge
- Recommend changes to ordinances or policies
- Implement the policies of the elected boards



City Planning vs. Urban Design







Types of Planning

- Land Use
- ☐ Housing
- Community Development
- □ Economic Development
- Environmental
- Coastal





- Public Health
 - Overcrowding
 - Sanitation
 - Access to recreation





Protect Property Values



- ☐ Efficient (or not so efficient) Infrastructure
 - Roads
 - * Transit
 - Water and Sewer





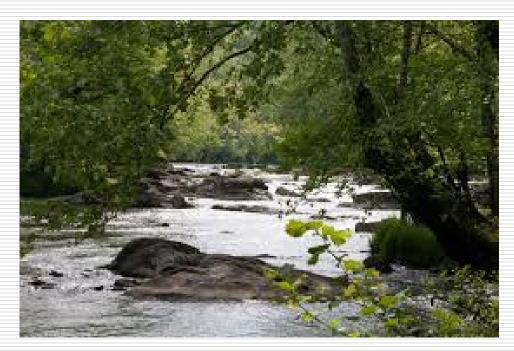


Social integration (or segregation)





- Environmental Protection
 - Water Quality
 - FloodplainManagement
 - Air Quality
 - Soil Erosion
 - Habitat Protection

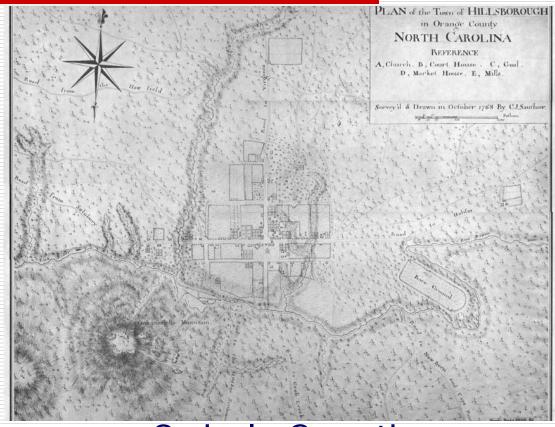














Orderly Growth

Which Goal is Most Important?

- Public Health
- □ Protecting Property Values
- Efficient Infrastructure
- Social Integration
- Environmental Protection
- Community Character
- Orderly Growth

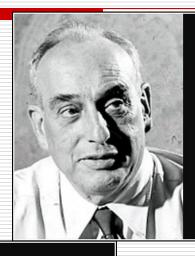


Concerns of Early Planners

- Overcrowding
- □ Air & Light (public health)
- Externalities of Uses
- Social Order
- Uncontrolled and speculative growth



Robert Moses vs. Jane Jacobs



I raise my stein to the builder who can remove ghettos without removing people as I hail the chef who can make omelets without breaking eggs.

— Robert Moses —

AZ QUOTES



Cities have the capability of providing something for everybody, only because, and only when, they are created by everybody.

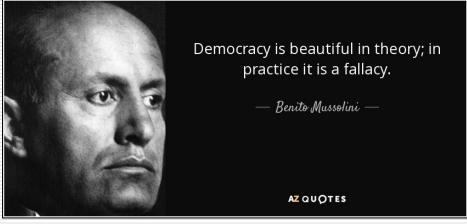
— Jane Jacobs —

AZ QUOTES



These Guys Make Robert Moses Proud







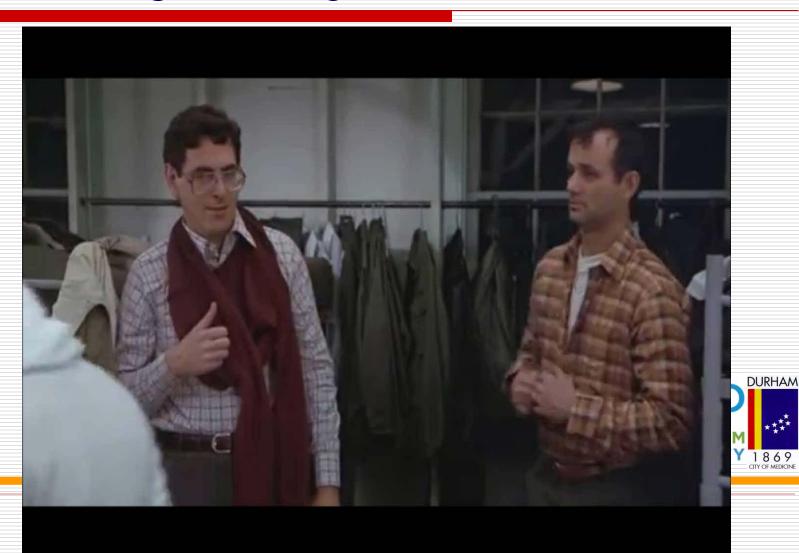
Boston North End

- Older building stock
- Low rents
- Near industry
- Mixed use
- Small city blocks
- High density housing





Planning Theory in 45 Minutes



Three Pioneers of Planning Theory

- Ebenezer Howard Garden Cities
- □ Frank Lloyd Wright Broadacres
- Le Corbusier Radiant City



Garden Cities - Ebenezer Howard

- Address overcrowding
- Provide ways out of poverty
- Decentralize social stratification
- Increased cooperation between capital and labor
- Combine best aspects of town and country

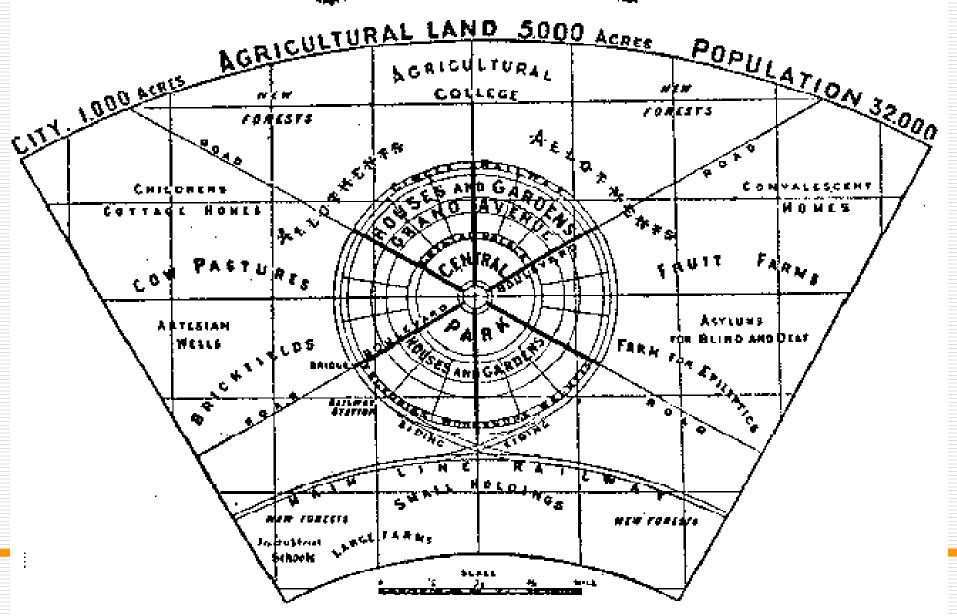


Garden Cities

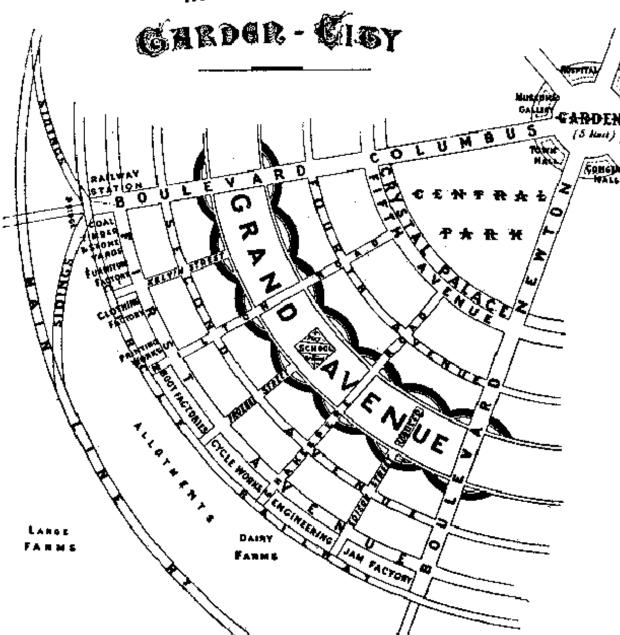
- □ Self-sustaining city of 30,000
- Industry and commerce for employment
- Surrounding greenbelt and agriculture provide food
- Railway and boulevards provide transportation to other cities
- Parks provide social cohesion
- ☐ Highly organized



SARDER-CIEF

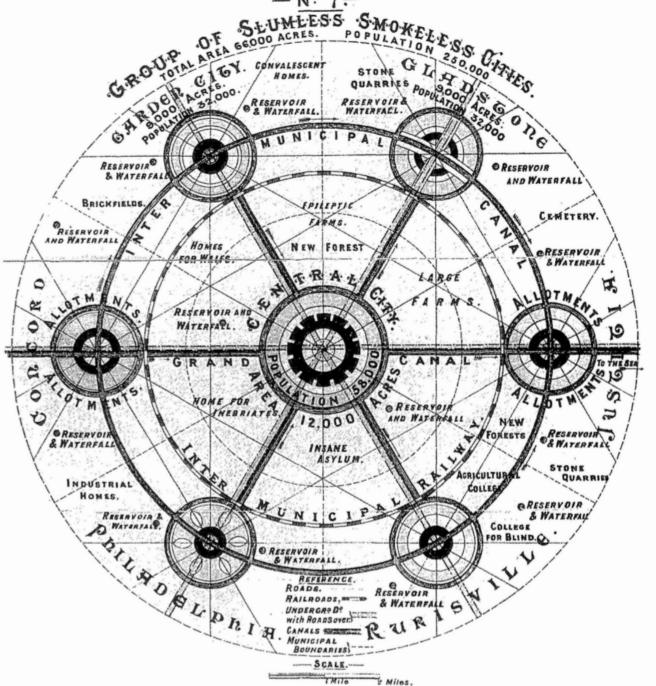


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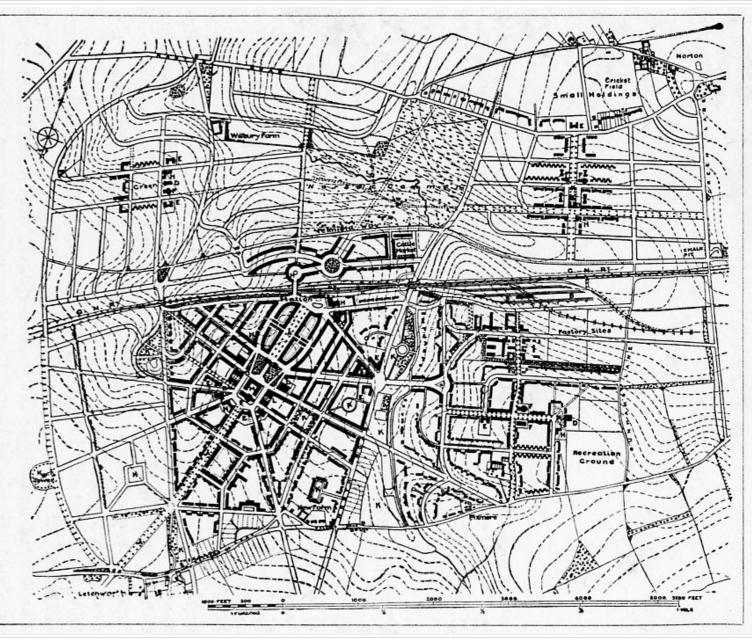


PARKER & UNWIN'S ORIGINAL PLAN OF LETCHWORTH GARDEN CITY,

AS FIRST PUBLISHED
(APRIL 1904)

Key to Plan

- A. Main Avenue
- B. Goods Yard and Sidings
- C. Central Square
- D. Sites for Public Hall, Museum, etc.
- E. Sites for Schools
- F. Sites for Places of Worship
- H. Sites for Hotels
- K. Open Spaces, Greens, or Parks
- L. Site for Post Office
- M. Site for Municipal Buildings



Modern Aspects of Garden City

- Straight, carefully planned streets
- Separation of uses
- Central Park
- Centrally located civic spaces (City Hall, museums, etc.)
- Strong governmental control of land use



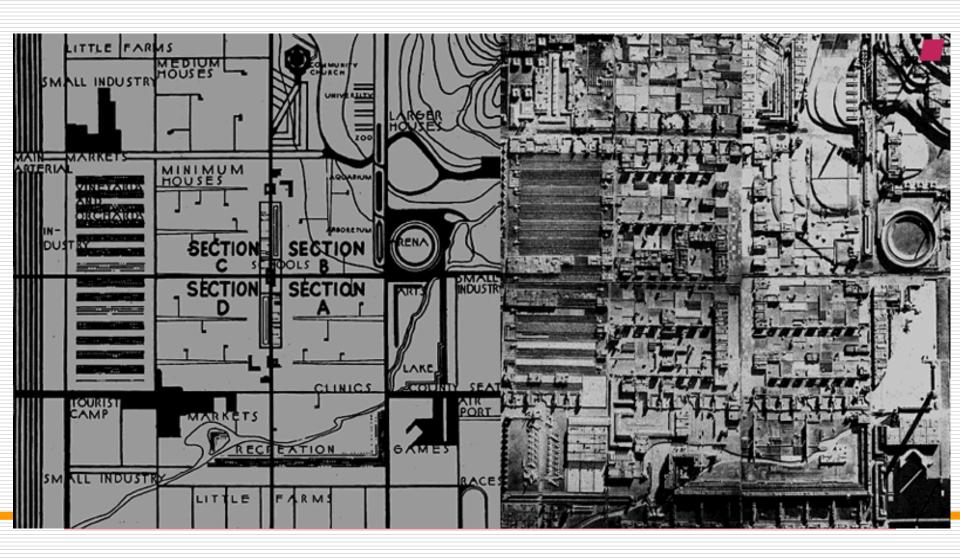
Broadacres - Frank Lloyd Wright

- □ Relieve overcrowding and public health issues of cities
- Cars would revolutionize transportation and reduce need for crowded cities
- Universal ownership of land allows for self-reliance



Broadacres

- Decentralize cities and move back to the country
- Each family would get a minimum of one acre per person
- Families would produce their own food
- Industrial/managerial jobs would be parttime
- Cars make decentralization possible



Modern Aspects of Broadacres

- Large lot subdivisions
 - * "An acre plus and an SUV"
- Auto-dependent transportation
- Movement to small scale agriculture



Contemporary City - Le Corbusier

- Industrial revolution and mass production allow for new housing manufacturing
- Environment is spared by building tall on a small footprint
- People live in apartments in sixty-story towers



Contemporary City

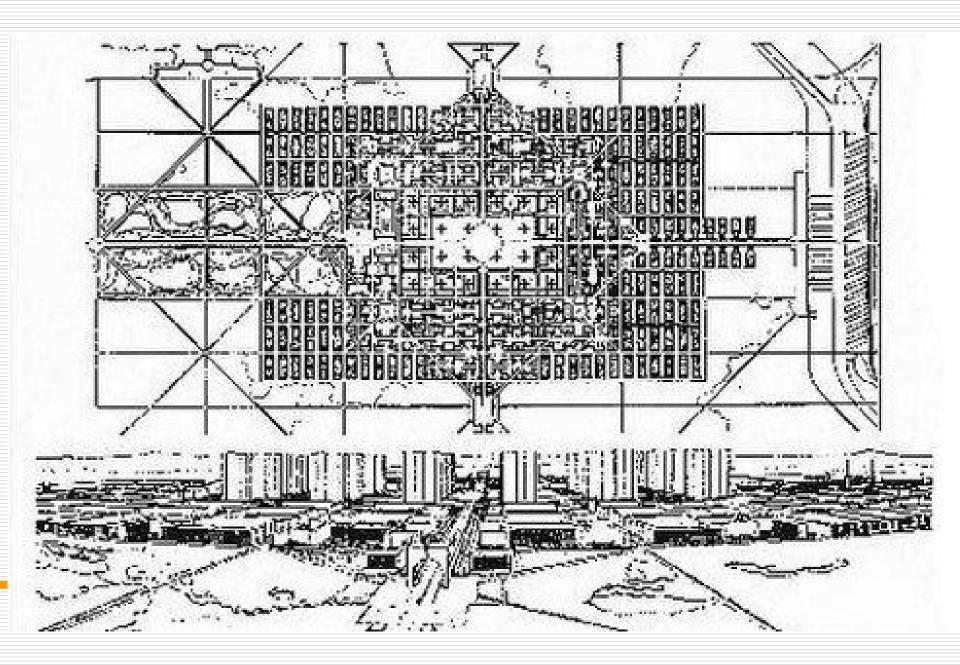
- Superhighways and runways provide infrastructure for new transportation modes
- Administration in center, then radiating outward:
 - Elite apartments
 - Worker apartments
 - Industry

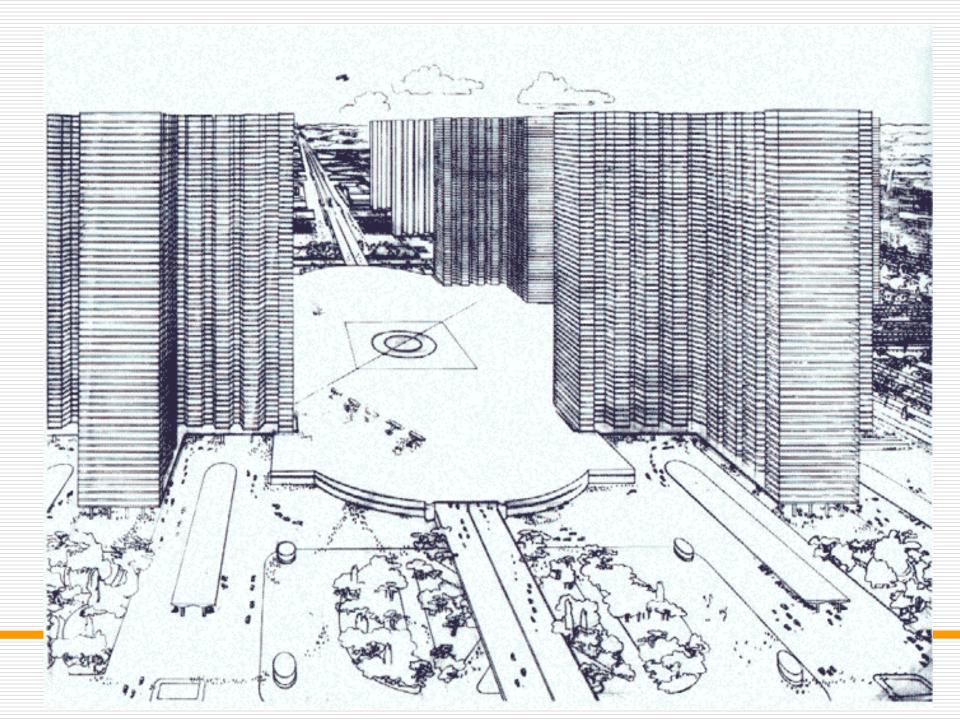


Contemporary City

- Hierarchical organization removes social disorder
- All housing is mass produced







Modern Aspects of Contemporary City

- Downtown Skyscrapers
- Use of the city as a place for exchange of ideas
- Multi-modal transportation
- Planning as more of a technical trade than an art



Group Exercise

- □ Redesign South Square as
 - Garden City
 - Broadacres
 - Contemporary City
- Do not change the road network
- Where would you locate buildings, parks, farms, etc?

Homework for Next Session

- Read Chapters 1 & 4 of Introduction to Zoning and Development Regulation
- Read Chapter 3 of Urban Land Use Planning
- Next Session is May 3
 - History of Planning
 - Legal Basis of Planning
 - Comprehensive Planning
 - Zoning

